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9.

Slicer-Shiplap- Shaw House  
18 Taylor Street  
Annapolis  
Anne Arundel County  
Maryland

PHOTOGRAPHS

ADDENDUM  
FOLLOWS...

Addendum to:

Slicer-Shiplap House (Shaw House) (Edward Smith House)  
18 Pinkney Street  
Annapolis  
Anne Arundel County  
Maryland

HABS No. MD-249

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

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ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Maryland	COUNTY Anne Arundel	TOWN OR VICINITY Annapolis
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Slicer-Shiplap House		HABS NO. MD-249
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE (Shaw House) (Edward Smith House)		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 18 Pinkney Street		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) c.1723	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) The Slicer-Shiplap House, built on the waterfront about 1723, played an import role in the city's commercial life. The descriptive name "Shiplap" refers to the construction style of the wooden siding on the house. Architecturally similar to the Davis House (MD-258)		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Transitional style from Colonial to Georgian.		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) The main foundations are brick, about two feet high; at the southwest end is a (Cont'd p2)		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) Two and one-half stories; three bay front; rectangular (approximately 21'x38') with an end wing (13'x20'). There is a central entrance and stair hall, with 1 room on right (see p.2)		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE The main roof is gabled and covered with ceramic tiles which imitate the original wooden shingles.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) A stair from the first floor to the attic is located at the rear of the central hall. It is a dog-leg stair, with open string, round handrail, and thin balusters. There are 15 risers to the second floor, and fifteen more to the attic. Above the second floor are a square newel and molded handrail.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES 1790 House renovated: vertical boards were lathed and plastered over. Outside walls of the rooms were relathed and plastered flush with the posts and beams. The fireplace mantels and wooden trim were upgraded. (see p.2)		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Private Residence		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE For Historical Events see p2-3, for chain of title see pages 4-6.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Old Views: Mayer, Frank B. Sketchbooks. Balt: Balt. Museum of Art. Forbes Collection of Photographs, #1122, Annapolis, Hall of Records. Biblio: Land Records and Wills, Annapolis, Hall of Records. Maryland Gazette, Annapolis, Hall of Records.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Eleni Silverman, Historian, HABS from reports by Florence Dunbar (May 1965) and Harley J. McKee (1964)		DATE 3/11/84

## MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (CONT'D)

plain water table. Foundations of two walls of the wing are rubble.

The southeast end wall is brick. The bricks are  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " by 4" x  $8\frac{1}{2}$ ". The mortar is of lime, sand, and small fragments of oyster shells and tiny stones; many joints have been repointed.

Most walls are frame; the front is covered with clapboards exposed 9", the lower edge beaded. Wide beaded flush boards of varying width cover the wing. The rear wall has flush boards without heading. Most of the material has been replaced but some old boards remain.

The walls are framed with  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " and  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $5\frac{1}{2}$ " studs and a few larger posts. Interior partitions are mainly wide vertical beaded boards, some of them lathed and plastered. Joists span the entire depth of the building: those of the second floor are 4" x 8" spaced from 18" to 23" on centers. Rafters are  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $3\frac{1}{4}$ " and 3" x 5", spaced 20" on centers; they are braced by dwarf stud partitions.

## SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (CONT'D)

and a smaller room on the left at the rear. A longitudinal hall leads to the room in the wing. The second story is similar in layout except for a modern bathroom over the entrance hall in front.

## MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES (CONT'D)

1889 The artist Frank B. Mayer created a studio by removing the ceiling of the east bedroom and adding dormers.

1957 Partial restoration of the entire structure.

to  
1971

## A. Historical Events Connected with 18 Pinkney Street:

In 1718 Stoddert surveyed lot #88 for the Hon. William Bladen, Secretary of the Province of Maryland. Bladen, upon his departure for London, appointed his son-in-law, Benjamin Tasker, his attorney and eventually left Tasker this land. Tasker contracted with Edward Smith, a sawyer and Innholder, to lease Smith a ground rent upon part of lot #88 on which Smith erected a house.\* The house was standing in 1723 when Smith died, leaving a widow and two minor children. Mary Smith died within a year of her husband, whose two children and affairs were left in the care of Edward Coyle, family friend and administrator.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION, (CONT'D)

In 1725 Edward Coyle sold the property, for the rest of the term of the lease between Tasker and Smith, to Joshua George, a lawyer who was a close family friend and protege of Daniel Dulany. In 1738 the lease was sold to Ashbury Sutton, a butcher (Mayor's Ct., Liber B, F. 213) and a merchant (Mayor's Ct., Liber B, F.239). Advertisements in the Maryland Gazette for this period indicate that Sutton was also a shipwright, ran sailing ferries to the Eastern Shore, was part owner of the ship "Samuel", and owned a 360 foot long ropewalk

John Raitt, Sheriff of Anne Arundel County and one-time armorer for the Province of Maryland, as well as a merchant, leased the property in 1748. Raitt sold European and East Indian goods at a shop in the house. When he died in 1758, the lease was purchased by Nathan Hammond. Hammond married the widow Raitt and continued to run the shop, selling similar imported goods. In 1787, Nathan Hammond, sold the lease to innkeeper John Humphrey, who kept the house as a tavern, "The Harp and Crown".

Nathan Hammond (nephew of Nathan Hammond, and his heir) sold the lease to Andrew Slicer in 1817. In 1844 John Ridout, heir and great grandson of Benjamin Tasker, conveyed the lot in fee simple to Slicer, whose family continued to live in the house until the 1860's.

In 1877, Elizabeth Goldsborough, Andrew Slicer's daughter, sold the property to Frank B. Mayer, who converted the top floor to a studio. Mayer was a noted Maryland artist and illustrator.

\* The rights to the ground rent descended in Tasker's family for more than 100 years, whereas the buildings on it were sold from time to time to a succession of owners.

B. Chain of Title

The following is an incomplete Chain of Title:

- 1718 Stoddert Notebooks, Hall of Records:  
Survey of lot #88, assigned to Hon. William Bladen,  
through his attorney, Benjamin Tasker.
- 1723 Mayor's Ct. Proceedings, Liber B, f.100, Hall of Records:  
Benjamin Tasker, attorney for Thos. Bladen (brother-in-law)  
to Edward Smith, sawyer:  
77 year lease of lot #88, with dwelling house and other  
improvements already built by Smith.
- 1723 A.A. Co. Wills, Liber 18, f.149, Hall of Records:  
Will of Edward Smith. Leaves whole estate, real and  
personal to wife, Mary.
- 1725 A.A. Co. Deeds, Liber SY1, f.185, Hall of Records:  
Edward Coyle, Administrator of Edward Smith's Estate, to  
Joshua George, lawyer and protege of Daniel Dulany  
(Mary Smith had died within a year of her husband and  
Coyle was directed to settle the estate. He therefore  
sold the lease between Tasker and Smith to George).
- 1726 A.A. Co. Deeds, Liber SY1, f.205, Hall of Records:  
Joshua George to Captain William Rogers  
Property deeded to Rogers for rest of term of lease  
between Tasker - Smith.
- 1734 A.A. Co. Deeds, Liber RD2, f.88, Hall of Records:  
Capt. Wm. Rogers to Charles Brown & Michael Coulter  
(Capt. Rogers had mortgaged property, and on non  
payment Brown & Coulter foreclosed and the Tasker-  
Smith lease was conveyed to them).
- 1738 Mayor's Ct. Proceedings, Liber B, f.213, Hall of Records:  
Charles Brown & Michael Coulter to Ashbury Sutton  
(Sold right to property to Sutton for term of years  
remaining since Tasker's original lease to Smith).
- 1748 Mayor's Ct. Proceedings, Liber B, f.239, Hall of Records:  
Ashbury Sutton to John Raitt, Sheriff of Anne Arundel Co.  
(Sells lease "... With more than 51 years of lease yet  
to go...").
- 1755 A.A. Co. Deeds, Liber EJ12, f.636, Hall of Records:  
Cancellation of 77 yr. lease between Tasker & Smith.  
New lease for 99 years between Tasker & Raitt, at  
£3.3.0 per annum.

- 1758 John Raitt died. On the back of the lease between Raitt and Tasker is the note: "Nathan Hammond married the widow Raitt by whom he obtained the within property."
- 1762 A.A. Co. Deeds, DD2, f.239, Land Office:  
Benjamin Tasker to Nathan Hammond, Sr.  
Part of lot not let to Raitt, 92 year lease renewable forever.
- 1774 A.A. Co. Deeds, Liber 1S7, f.27, Hall of Records:  
Nathan Hammond laid the cornerstone for property resurvey of lot #88.
- 1787 A.A. Co. Deeds, Liber NH3, f.74  
State of Maryland to Nathan Hammond, Sr.  
(1/5th of lot #88 confiscated from Daniel Dulany).
- \*\* In the period 1787 - 1817 the property was rented by Hammond to various tenants, including John Humphrey who kept the house as "The Harp and Crown" (From advertisements in the Maryland Gazette).
- 1817 A.A. Co. Deeds, Liber WJG5, f.121, Hall of Records:  
Nathan Hammond, Jr. (nephew and heir of N. Hammond) to Andrew Slicer  
(Nathan Hammond owned 1/5th of the land through uncle's will, rest through perpetual lease between N. Hammond Sr, and B. Tasker subject to ground rent of £3.3.0 per annum. N. Hammond, Jr. sold outright ((in fee simple)) 1/5th owned by him, and sold lease on remainder of lot).
- 1844 A.A. Co. Deeds WSG27, f.575, Hall of Records:  
John and Prudence Ridout (heirs of B. Tasker) to Andrew Slicer.  
At this point the ground lease was revoked and the property was conveyed in fee simple to Slicer.
- 1865 Baltimore City Wills, IPC32, f.439, Hall of Records:  
Will of Andrew Slicer. Devises all of lot #88 to daughter, Elizabeth Goldsborough.
- 1877 A.A. Co. Deeds, SH11, f.134, A.A. Co. Courthouse:  
Elizabeth Goldsborough to Frank H. Stockett, Trustee.
- 1877 A.A. Co. Deeds, Liber SH11, f.233, A.A.Co. Courthouse:  
Frank H. Stockett, Trustee, to Francis B. Mayer
- 1896 A.A. Co. Wills, Liber WFP1, f.431, A.A.Co. Courthouse:  
Will of Francis B. Mayer. Devised real estate to widow, Ellen B. Mayer. Probated 1899.

- 1901 A.A. Co. Wills, Liber OBD2, F.90, A.A.Co. Courthouse:  
Ellen B. Mayer. Devised real estate to daughter,  
Mary B. Sylvester. Probated 1918.
- 1921 A.A. Co. Deeds, Liber WNW, f.30, A.A. Co. Courthouse:  
Mary B. Sylvester & John, her husband to  
Fannie Schenker
- 1958 A.A.Co. Deeds, Liber GTC1194, f.328, A.A.Co. Courthouse:  
Fannie Schenker, widow, to  
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